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Docket No.: TGW-0203
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yasuo Murakami et al.

Application No.: 10/726,655

Confirmation No.: 5851

Filed: December 4, 2003

Art Unit: 1753

For: VACUUM ARC VAPOR DEPOSITION
APPARATUS

Examiner: R. G. McDonald

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
- ☒ excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).
- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. **No fee is required** in view of the statement below (37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)).

- ☒ a. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. TGW-0203. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 18, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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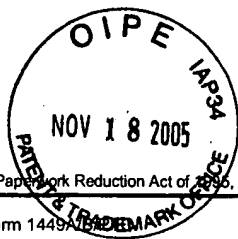
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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/726,655-Conf. #5851
				Filing Date	December 4, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Yasuo Murakami
				Art Unit	1753
				Examiner Name	R. G. McDonald
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	TGW-0203

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
	AA	US-2002/0139662 A1	10-03-2002	Lee	
	AB	US-6,031,239	02-29-2000	Shi et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	BA	WO 96/26532	08-29-1996	AVIMO GROUP LIMITED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
	CA	European Search Report, Application No.: 03029375.7-2119 PCT/, October 19, 2005			
	CB	TAKI et al., "Shielded Arc Ion Plating and Structural Characterization of amorphous carbon nitride thin films," pp. 183-190, July 30, 1997.			

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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